

**Course Description: Submitted for Spring 2013 (new topic)**  
**RHE 330C: SoundWriting in Digital Spaces**  
**Will Burdette, Assistant Instructor**

New media, new genres, and new methods of evaluation are emerging as digital technologies change the way we write. How do we know what writing is when our writing spaces are constantly shifting? I suggest that we keep our ear to the ground. In *Noise* Jacques Attali writes “music is prophetic and ... social organization echoes it.” Music often moves faster than writing instruction. Because audio recording technologies are woven into our culture we can understand certain aspects of social organization by learning more about them. In this class, students will read about the intersection of digital culture and audio recording. Students will create podcasts (audio and/or video) based on a social issue of their choosing. They will write supporting materials (web pages, logos, posters) explaining and promoting the podcasts.

**Major Assignments and Evaluation**

|                               |                |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Logo/wordmark/website banner: | 5%             |
| Website:                      | 10%            |
| Six podcasts:                 | 60% (10% each) |
| Supporting materials:         | 10%            |
| The Learning Record           | 15%            |

The Learning Record, administered through the course wiki, will be used as the evaluation method. However, completion of The Learning Record will be factored into students' final grades.

Students will peer review each other's websites and revise them twice throughout the semester. Students will also peer-review each other's podcasts each week using SoundCloud's commenting feature. While the student's will not be required to revise each podcast, they will be required to incorporate peer feedback into subsequent podcast episodes.

**Required Texts**

*How Music Works*, David Byrne, The MIT Press, 2012

*Ripped: How the Wired Generation Revolutionized Music*, Greg Kot, Scribner, 2010

Other texts will be provided as digital handouts.

Approved by Jeffrey Walker, Chair